

Voluntary Measures in Air Quality Plans

Dallas, EPA Region 6

Workshop June 24-25

EPA's Office of Mobile Sources

by Michael Ball

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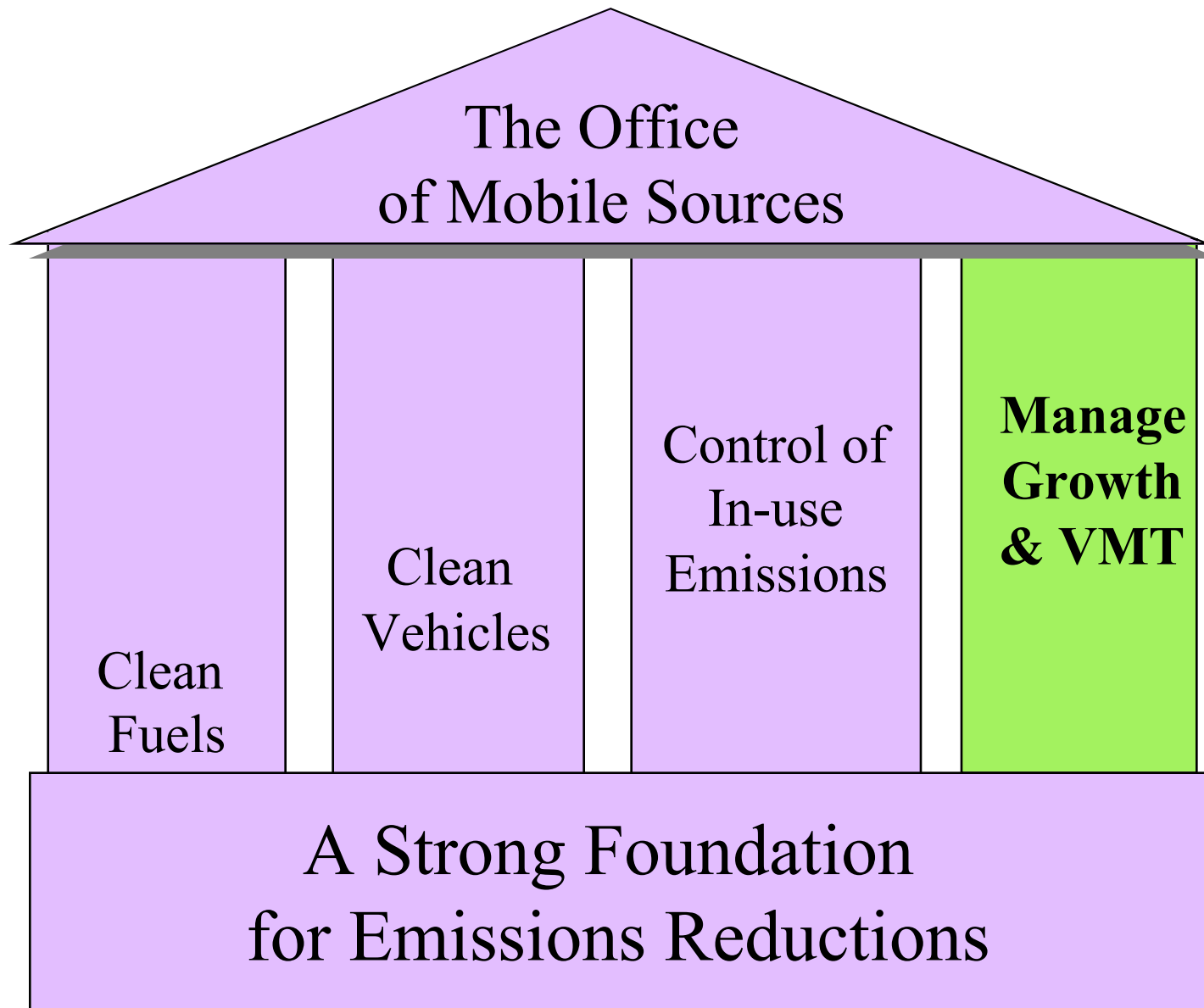
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Background- Why are we interested?



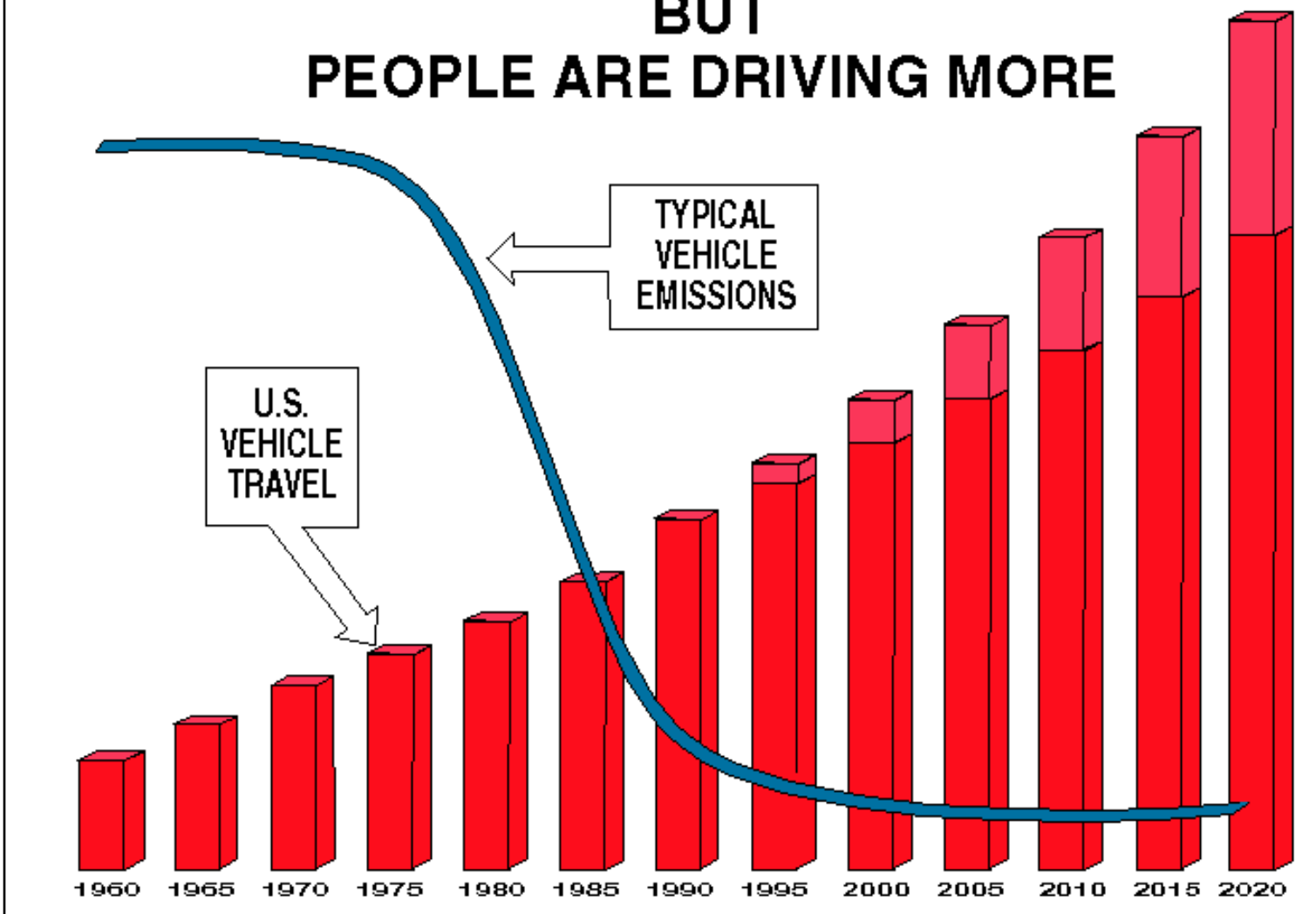
- OMS - TRAQ Center Mission-
 - Stress the relationship between VMT and air quality through programs and outreach
- Help States\Cities meet the CAA planning requirements and attainment goals
- Develop VMEP as a method to credit existing initiatives & create new programs

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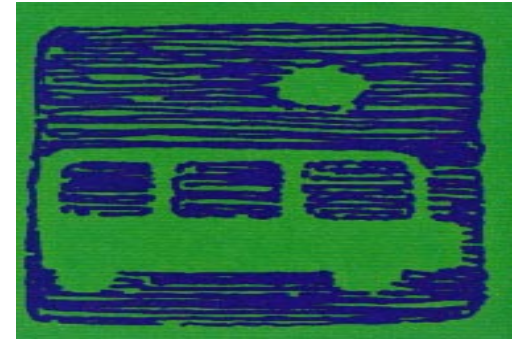
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CARS ARE GETTING CLEANER BUT PEOPLE ARE DRIVING MORE



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Voluntary Measures Policy (VMEP)

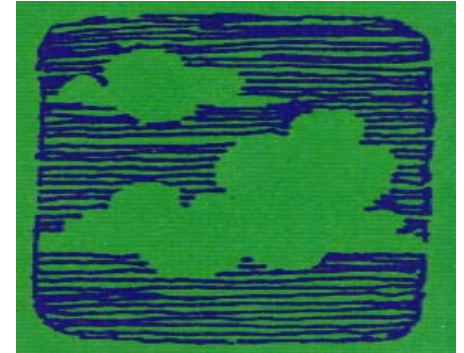


Goal: Promote voluntary measures, market incentives, and other innovative strategies for progress toward Clean Air Goals.

- | Policy enacted on October 23, 1997
- | EPA creates flexibility for State Implementation Plans (SIPs)
- | Credits nonregulatory programs at the local level up to 3% of the total needed reductions
- | Funding eligibility under 105 and CMAQ

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Mobile Emissions are Significant



- Nitrogen Oxide (NO_x)-- 49.2%
- Carbon Monoxide (CO)-- 76.6%
- Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC's)-- 40%
- Particulate Matter (PM10) --23%
- Carbon Emissions contribution to global warming --33%

(from the EPA 1997 Air Trends Report)

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Coherent Set of Strategies



- ➔ **Track 1: Integrate** air quality, transportation, and land use planning
- ➔ **Track 2: Promote** the development and adoption of environmentally and economically sound transportation options.
- ➔ **Track 3: Evaluate** the emissions impact of transportation options.

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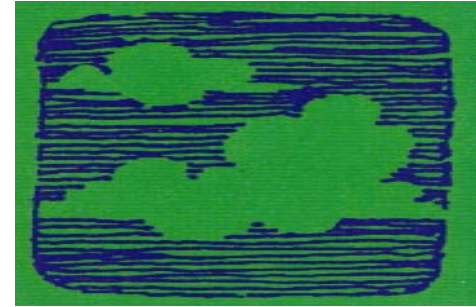
Definitions



- **Voluntary:** Relies on nonregulatory--voluntary actions by citizens for actual emission reductions (3rd party activities)
- **Episodic vs. Seasonal:** Action on specific days vs. continuous over a season
 - Section 123 prohibits episodic for stationary
 - But, the policy allows for mobile source episodic including some area source

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Partnerships for VMEP Credit



- State Government -- Air Quality Agency
 - Responsible for SIPs and federal interaction
- Local Government -- Agents for the State
 - Metropolitan Planning Organizations
 - Cities--Health Departments, Airport Authority
 - Other state agencies- DOTs
- Third Parties -- Business, Coalitions, Organizations, Citizen Groups, individuals

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Programs & Estimated Emission Reductions (tons/year)



<u>Program Description</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>NO_x</u>	<u>VOC</u>
Alternative Fuel Vehicles	Clean Cities		10 TPY???
Cornell TDM Program	Ithaca, NY	17 TPY	29.5 TPY
Lawn Mower Buyback	Maricopa County, AZ		20 TPY
Vehicle Scrappage	Maricopa County, AZ	45 TPY	57.6 TPY
Trip Reduction Program	Maricopa County, AZ	55 TPY	71 TPY
Parking Management	Glendale, CA	5 TPY	4.4 TPY
Ridesharing	Nashville, TN		41 TPY
ECO Replacement Program	Ventura County, CA	51 TPY	62 TPY

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SIP Flexibility

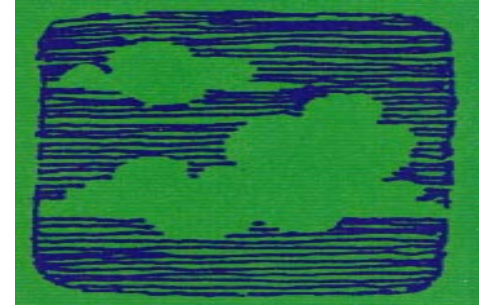
(SIP v. VMEP SIP)



- Traditional v. Voluntary Reductions
 - Enforceable- Verifiable
 - Permanent- over time period utilized
 - Quantifiable - Quantifiable
 - Surplus- Surplus
- SIP submission- streamlined requirements
 - No backstop or contingency measures
 - States given up-front credit

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VMEP Elements



- Overview: State submits to EPA its intent and describes how the program or activity will work in practice including:
 1. Program participants
 2. How the program works
 3. Activity effects
 4. Emission effects
 5. State commitment to evaluate, report and remedying emission credit shortfall
 6. Technical support documentation

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VMEP Cap



- Initially limited to 3% of an applicable plan
- Including Attainment, RFP(15% plan), other requirements
 - Example 15% plan
 - 3% of required reductions (100 tons= 3 tons)
- CAP would be imposed for 5 years and reviewed as EPA gains experience

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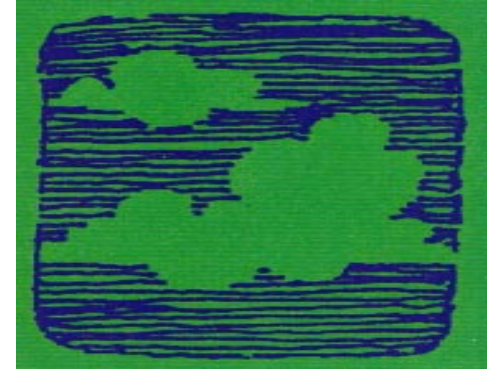
TRAQ Website Databases



- Outreach programs and environ. ed. curricula
- Market incentive programs
- Episodic programs
- Transportation Control Measures programs
- Transportation/air quality-related Grants

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TRAQ Contact Information



- Website Address

www.epa.gov/omswww/traq

- TRAQ Information Request Phone Line:
(734) 214-4100

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